

**MINUTES OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION BOARD**

**September 15, 2015**

A meeting of the North Carolina Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board was called to order at 10:00 AM on September 15, 2015 by Danny Sloan, Chairman.

The following members and guests were present:

Members Present:

Steve Scruggs	Linda Raynor	Wendell Pickett	Danny Sloan
Charles Brown	Leslie Carreiro		

Guests:

Stephen Denning	Shawn Maier	Steve Reid
Heather Cagle	Cindy Gall	Carmalin Walter
Debbie Soles	Moses Thompson	Michael Melton
Jay Frick		

Danny Sloan read the Statement of Ethics and asked if anyone had any conflicts of interest with the day's agenda items. Danny Sloan and Steve Scruggs both mentioned they had a potential conflict of interest with the Aqua NC agenda item and that they would recuse themselves from the discussion and vote.

The first item of Board business was to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Danny Sloan called for a motion to accept the minutes. Leslie Carreiro made a motion to accept the minutes and Wendell Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Danny Sloan asked if there were any comments from the attending public. There were none.

**The next item of business was certification reinstatement requests.**

The Board received a letter from Tammy Leach requesting that she be able to regain her C-Distribution certification again. Ms. Leach's certification expired in 2009. Leslie Carreiro made the motion that Ms. Leach be able to regain her certifications after paying two years of renewal fees and late fees and taking and passing the C-Distribution exam which must be taken within one year of the approval. Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received a letter from Denise Latta requesting that she be able to regain his C-Surface certification again. Ms. Latta's certification expired in 2011. Steve Scruggs made the motion that Ms. Latta be able to regain her certifications after paying two years of renewal fees and late fees and taking and passing the C-Surface exams which must be taken within one year of the approval. Leslie Carreiro seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**The next item of business was ORC exception requests.**

The Board received a permission request from Kenneth Black for the following ORC designations:

Town of Mt. Pleasant	0113020	A-Surface	Cabarrus Co.
Montgomery Co.	0362010	A-Surface	Montgomery Co.

Leslie Carreiro made a motion to approve the request for an additional six months and for Montgomery County to either provide documentation of advertising for their A-Surface ORC position or provide notification of their intent to keep Mr. Black as their permanent ORC. Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received a permission request from William Coburn for the following ORC designations:

Town of Windsor	0408010	B-Distribution	Bertie Co.
Town of Windsor	0408010	Cross-Connection	Bertie Co.
Town of Windsor	0408010	C-Well	Bertie Co.
Clearwater Valley	0408055	C-Well	Bertie Co.

Charles Brown made a motion to approve the request. Wendell Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received a permission request from Lee Latham for the following ORC designations:

Town of Grimesland	0474055	B-Distribution	Pitt Co.
Town of Grimesland	0474055	Cross-Connection	Pitt Co.
Town of Grimesland	0474055	C-Well	Pitt Co.
Thomas MHP #2	0474140	C-Well	Pitt Co.
Thomas MHP #3	0474142	C-Well	Pitt Co.
Town of Plymouth	0494010	B-Distribution	Washington Co

Leslie Carreiro made a motion to approve the request. Linda Raynor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received a permission request from Arthur Hough for the following ORC designations:

Fairfield Harbour	0425132	B-Distribution	Craven Co.
Fairfield Harbour	0425132	C-Well	Craven Co.

Steve Scruggs made a motion to approve the request. Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received the bi-annual update from Aqua NC. Michael Melton and Moses Thompson were in attendance from Aqua N.C. to answer any questions that the board had regarding the spreadsheet. Leslie Carreiro made the motion to approve the Aqua NC business model for another year. Wendell Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**The next item of business was temporary certification requests. There were none.**

**The next item of business was out-of-state requests.**

The Board received an out-of-state application from Jack Smith requesting to take a well exam. Mr. Smith holds a Grade D Water Distribution Operator license in South Carolina, but documented no well experience on this application. Mr. Smith claimed 4 years of experience. Danny Sloan recommended that Mr. Smith's request be denied because of the lack of equivalent certification and experience. Charles Brown made the motion to deny the request. Leslie Carreiro seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Rick Rivers requesting to take a well, surface, distribution and cross-connection exam. Mr. Rivers holds a grade 2 Water Treatment Plant Operator and Grade 2 Water Distribution System Operator certification in Arizona and has 10 years of experience. Danny Sloan recommended that Mr. Rivers be allowed to take a B-Surface, B-Well, B-Distribution, and Cross-Connection exam. Charles Brown made the motion that Mr. Rivers be allowed to take a B-Surface, B-Well, B-Distribution, and Cross-Connection exam. Steve Scruggs seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Thomas Hedrick requesting to take a surface exam. Mr. Hedrick holds a Class 2 Water license in West Virginia and has 10 years of experience. Danny Sloan recommended that Mr. Hedrick be allowed to take up to a B-Surface exam. Charles Brown made the motion that Mr. Hedrick be allowed to take up to a B-Surface exam. Wendell Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received a military training and experience exam application from Gary Brinson. Danny Sloan recommended that Mr. Brinson be allowed to take up to the C-Distribution, C-Surface, C-Well, and Cross-Connection

exams. Charles Brown made the motion that Mr. Brinson be allowed to take up to the C-Distribution, C-Surface, C-Well, and Cross-Connection exams. Wendell Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**The next item of business was other requests. There were none.**

**The next item of business was classification of water treatment facilities.**

The following new system classifications were submitted by the various regional offices for the board's approval:

- Starview Heights Extension – C-Well(<100 connections)
- Summerfield Charter Academy – D-Well(<100 connections)

Leslie Carreiro made a motion to approve the new classifications as submitted. Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**The next item on the agenda was Board Issues –Rules**

The Board revisited a tabled request for clarification from Mr. Jimmy Strickland of Leland. Mr. Strickland wanted to know if the Board considered homeowner's backflow devices to be (In Mr. Strickland's words) "part of the 5 or more devices that will require me to have an ORC". Linda Raynor stated that she had discussed the issue with Public Water Supply Section staff and they had decided that homeowner's backflow devices should not be counted toward the needed devices that would require a water system to have a certified Cross-Connection operator. Linda Raynor stated that Public Water Supply would send a letter of reply to Mr. Strickland. Stephen Denning asked Mrs. Raynor if she would talk with Bob Midgette of the PWSS Central Office about passing this decision on to the heads of the PWSS regional offices so they would know how to proceed in regards to inspecting and classifying water systems. Mrs. Raynor agreed to do so.

Steve Reid was in attendance to update the board on several issues. Mr. Reid mentioned that the HB74 rules review had been reviewed by the Rules Review Commission and had been approved, but the APO has not met because the legislature is still in session. Mr. Reid also talked about the test version of the operator portal that has been shown to the Certification Board members and stated that the electronic payment program is in the final stages of development.

**The next item of business was education.**

Stephen Denning updated the board on the combined list of formulas that was being created for people taking the certification exams. Mr. Denning explained to the board that the document was seven pages long in its current form. The board discussed this as a disadvantage as operators would receive many more formulas than they would actually need which could lead to confusion. Also, the extra costs of printing unnecessary pages would also be a negative factor.

Wendell Pickett made a motion to strongly recommend that the formulas be separated based on either a well/surface exam or a distribution/cross-connection exam and that the appropriate formula bundle be given to each examinee.

Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Danny Sloan asked the board members to review the exam results from the July 28<sup>th</sup> and August 27<sup>th</sup> exams.

Danny Sloan asked for volunteers to proctor the September 29<sup>th</sup> electronic exams in Morganton. Wendell Pickett volunteered to proctor those exams. Danny Sloan asked for volunteers to proctor the October 29<sup>th</sup> paper exams. Charles Brown volunteered to proctor the Snow Hill exam site if his board replacement was not designated by that time, Steve Scruggs volunteered to proctor the Raleigh exam site and Danny Sloan volunteered to proctor the Morganton exam site.

**The next item of business was other.**

Danny Sloan mentioned that the documents have been submitted to the Governor's office for the board members that have applied to replace Charles Brown and Leslie Carreiro. Mr. Sloan did make contact with a representative of the Governor's office who stated that the applications were received and being reviewed.

Danny Sloan asked for any comments from the attending public. There were no comments.

Danny Sloan stated the next meeting date would be December 15, 2015.

Danny Sloan asked for a motion to adjourn. Charles Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wendell Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Denning".

Stephen Denning, Board Secretary